

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

LISTING OF CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) An image viewing device, comprising:
a member having an area defining an aperture, ~~the~~ light rays from the image entering through the aperture; and
an optical block comprised of a refractive material, the optical block being located adjacent to the aperture, the optical block being capable of compressing the light rays from the image that pass through the aperture so as to produce an image comprising at least a 180° field of view.
2. (Original) The image viewing device according to claim 1, wherein the optical block has a substantially flat surface facing towards the aperture.
3. (Cancelled)
4. (Original) The image viewing device according to claim 2, wherein the optical block has a substantially spherical surface opposite the flat surface.
5. (Original) The image viewing device according to claim 1, wherein the optical block abuts the member having an area defining an aperture.

6 (Cancelled)

7. (Original) The image viewing device of claim 1, further comprising a housing for receiving the optical block, wherein the housing is substantially light tight.

8. (Original) The image viewing device of claim 1, further comprising an image detection means, the optical block being located between the aperture and the image detection means, the image detection means being capable of viewing and recording the image produced by the optical block.

9. (Original) The image viewing device according to claim 1, further comprising an image intensifying means for intensifying the image produced by the optical block.

10. (Cancelled)

11. (Previously Presented) The image viewing device according to claim 9, further comprising a recording means for recording the image produced by a device selected from the group consisting of the optical block, the image intensifying means, and combinations thereof.

12-15. (Cancelled)

16. (Original) The image viewing device according to claim 1, wherein the optical block has an index of refraction in the range of more than about 1.

17. (Original) The image viewing device according to claim 1, wherein the optical block has an index of refraction in the range of about 1.5 to about 4.

18. (Original) The image viewing device according to claim 1, wherein the aperture has a diameter in the range of about 100 microns to about 1 centimeter.

19-20. (Cancelled)

21. (Original) The image viewing device according to claim 1, wherein a color image is produced.

22. (Original) The image viewing device according to claim 1, wherein a monochromatic image is produced.

23. (Original) The image viewing device according to claim 1, wherein a black and white image is produced.

24. (Original) The image viewing device according to claim 1, wherein a portion of the optical block extends through the aperture, the portion of the optical block extending through the aperture focusing the incoming light rays from the image.

25. (New) An optical device comprising:

a member defining an aperture operable to permit light rays to pass therethrough; and

an optical block having a first surface disposed adjacent to the aperture and a second surface opposite the first surface, the optical block including refractive material operable to compress light rays passing through the aperture and produce an image at the second surface.

26. (New) The optical device according to claim 25, wherein the optical block abuts the member.

27. (New) The optical device according to claim 25, further comprising a gap between the optical block and the member.

28. (New) The optical device according to claim 25, wherein the image is a fisheye view.

29. (New) The optical device according to claim 25, further comprising a light-tight housing for the optical block.

30. (New) The optical device according to claim 25, further comprising an image detection means, the optical block being located between the aperture and the image detection means.

31. (New) The optical device according to claim 30, wherein the image detection means is operable to view the image produced by the optical block.

32. (New) The optical device according to claim 25, further comprising an image intensifier operable to intensify the image.

33. (New) The optical device according to claim 32, further comprising a recorder operable to record the image produced by the image intensifying means.

34. (New) The optical device according to claim 25, further comprising a recorder operable to record the image produced by the optical block.

35. (New) The optical device according to claim 25, further comprising a cleaning mechanism operable to clean debris from at least one of the aperture and the first surface.

36. (New) The optical device according to claim 35, wherein the cleaning mechanism includes a selectively operable source of compressed air.

37. (New) The optical device according to claim 25, further comprising a color filter in optical communication with the optical block and operable to selectively filter wavelengths of the light rays.

38. (New) The optical device according to claim 25, wherein the optical block has an index of refraction in the range of more than about 1.

39. (New) The optical device according to claim 25, wherein the optical block has an index of refraction in the range of about 1.5 to about 4.

40. (New) The optical device according to claim 25, wherein the aperture has a diameter in the range of about 100 microns to about 1 centimeter.

41. (New) The optical device according to claim 25, wherein the image is a color image.

42. (New) The optical device according to claim 25, wherein the image is a monochromatic image.

43. (New) The optical device according to claim 25, wherein the image is a black and white image.

44. (New) The optical device according to claim 25, wherein a portion of the optical block extends through the aperture.

45. (New) The optical device according to claim 44, wherein the portion of the optical block extending through the aperture is operable to focus the light rays.